

HOUSE RESOLUTION 185

By Pruitt

A RESOLUTION recognizing Garland Pulley on becoming an Eagle Scout.

WHEREAS, at a time when this nation's youth face difficult challenges, the Boy Scouts of America is one of our finest assets, providing young men with an educational program that contributes significantly to their character development, citizenship training, and improved mental and physical fitness; and

WHEREAS, the highest rank a Boy Scout can attain is that of Eagle Scout, and Garland Pulley, after considerable effort and diligent preparation, completed the requirements and was examined by an Eagle Scout Board of Review and found worthy of the rank of Eagle Scout on January 12, 2012; and

WHEREAS, Garland has demonstrated considerable ability as a leader among his peers; and

WHEREAS, his notable record of achievement as a member of Boy Scout Troop 17 includes numerous Merit Badges and a history of distinguished service; and

WHEREAS, Garland is a disabled scout who has cerebral palsy and, incredibly, he completed all of the requirements for the rank of Eagle without asking for a single waiver; and

WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts have a policy that allows for substitute requirements that challenge disabled scouts in the same way the standard requirements challenge typically developing scouts; and

WHEREAS, in spite of the fact that it took considerably more effort for Garland to complete these requirements because of his disability, he was determined to do it just like everyone else; and

WHEREAS, for his Eagle project, Garland put on a one-week basketball camp for children with disabilities, with youth from ages seven to adults over twenty-one years of age participating in the camp; and

WHEREAS, they were taught basketball skills and participated in a number of competitions, including a tournament at the end of the week; and

WHEREAS, Garland solicited the help of college basketball players and coaches to help staff the camp, and Rick Byrd, the Head Coach of the Belmont University Bruins, brought his entire staff there for a day; and

WHEREAS, Garland now has plans for his camp, D-Hoops (Disability Hoops), to run every summer for at least a week, and he was also able to raise enough money to put the camp on without any cost to the campers; and

WHEREAS, Garland's Eagle project greatly contributed to the betterment of his community and reflected the true spirit of Volunteerism; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that we should pause to recognize Garland Pulley as one of the most outstanding young people in our State; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor and congratulate Garland Pulley on becoming an Eagle Scout and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.